BARNBY'S NEW ORATORIO.

A London Componer and a New York Libret-

Joseph Barnby, of London, is one of the rising composers of the day, and in various classes of vocal music, whether for the parlor or the church, has shown genuine ability. He lately wrote a new work entitled Rebekah, which has been produced in London. The Musical World says of it: -

"Mr. Joseph Barnby's 'Rebekah' is entitled 'A Sacred Idyll in two scenes.' The libretto, by Mr. Arthur Matthison, of New York, confines itself entirely to the business of Eliezer and Rebekah at the well, and to the meeting of Isaac and his bride, as the latter drew near to the patriarchal camp. Hence there is great unity about the narrative, the thread of which, if it have a thread, can hardly be lost. Mr. Matthison has treated his subject in an imaginative and poetical fashion, idealizing actual, facts, as he had a perfect right and was, in some sort, bound to do. Take, as an example, the conduct attributed to Rebekah on hearing the object of Eliezer's mission. Mr. Matthison puts these words into the young girl's mouth:—'My soul this day hath been in joyous tumult, and my heart foretold me ere the night should come glad tidings would be brought unto me. Ofttimes in sleep have visions of thine image blessed me, O beloved! Ofttimes hath fancy pictured to my soul thy hand enclasped in mine, thy loving kiss upon my brow! And freely, gladly to thy love I come.' This is very pretty, we grant, and confirms the romantic notion that 'marriages are made in heaven. Nevertheless the fact was that when Eliezer presented Rebekah with a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold (vide Genesis xxiv, 22), the damsel, like a natural and unsophisticated damsel, ran home to tell her mother, thinking no more of Isaac than her parents thought of consulting herself when they made up their minds she should go.

"This, however, by the way; and we have only to add that Mr. Matthison has produced a libretto which answered Mr. Barnby's purpose very well, by giving all needful scope for effect. Addressing ourselves to a study of the music, we expected to note the influence of M. Gounod more or less apparent. Former works by Mr. Barnby clearly revealed his predilection for that showy and shallow French composer, and we are glad to find that it is in this case considerably diminished. As a matter of fact, Mr. Barnby has deserted Gounod for Spohr. Some may declare that the change merely involves looking at the same ideal through a German instead of a French medium; but, at any rate, we congratulate Mr. Barnby on having made it. Spohr, with all his faults, was a master who founded a school of his own, fascinating enough at one time to bid highly for predominance. The influence of Spohr upon the music of 'Rebekah' cannot be mistaken. Mr. Barnby has produced melodies full of sentiment, often full of beauty also; and to these he has wedded harmonies so ornate that the decorations seem to jostle each other for notice. Moreover, he has adopted the thoroughly Spohrish device of incessant modulation and unexpected progressions, which frequently make one uneasy as to whither they will lead. We may take the liberty of counselling Mr. Barnby to go no further in this direction. There are passages in 'Rebekah' which can only pass muster by courtesy; and any further development of the restless search for effect out of which they spring would be certain to do the clever composer harm. We have no space left for notice of the music in detail, and must be content to point out those numbers which are most characteristic. The two fugues, at the beginning and end respectively, are worked with freedom and boldness enough to secure for Mr. Barnby no little esteem as a scholastic writer. A chorus of damsels (with solo), 'Who shall be fleetest and first,' has a charming effect due to pretty melody and elegant treatment; this number was encored at the performance in St. James' Hall, as was a 'Bride's March,' which promises to meet with favor apart from its connection. One or two of the airs may also be cited as examples of Mr. Barnby's best style -that for 'Eliezer,' 'The Daughters of the city come,' and that for 'Isaac,' 'The soft southern breeze plays around me.' The scoring is throughout admirably done—so far, indeed, nothing could easily be better."

FASHIONS AT THE ENGLISH COURT.

What Was Worn at Queen Victoria's Draw-ing-Room. The London journals of the 11th of May report the following brilliant scene as witnessed at Queen Victoria's Drawing-room, at Buckingham Palace, the day previous:-

Her Majesty the Queen entered the throneroom shortly after 3 o'clock, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the royal family.

In attendance upon her Majesty were:—
The Duchess of Sutherland, Mistress of
the Robes; the Viscountess Clifden, Lady of the Bedchamber in Waiting; the Hon. Mrs. Bruce, Woman of the Bedchamber in Waiting; the Hon. Horatia Stopford and the Hon. Harriet Phipps, Maids of Honor in Waiting; the Earl of Bessberough, Lord Steward; Viscount Sydney, Lord Chamberlain; the Marquis of Ailesbury, Master of the Horse; Lord de Tabley, Transport of the Horse; Lord de Tabley, Treasurer of the Household; Lord Otho Fitzgerald, Controller of the Household; Viscount Castlerosse, Vice-Chamberlain; the Earl of Cork, Master of the Buckhounds; the Earl of Camperdown, Lord in Waiting; Colonel Lynedoch Gardiner, Groom in Waiting; Colonel H. F. Ponsonby, Private Secretary; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Cowell, Master of the Household; Lord Alfred Paget, Clerk Marshal; Colonel Hon. A. Hardinge, Equerry in Waiting; Lieutenant-General F. H. Seymour, Groom of the Robes; the Hon. F. W. Stopford and the Hon. Fitzroy H. Somerset, Pages of Honor in Waiting.

The Queen wore a black silk dress with a train, trimmed with crape and jet, and a white tulle head-dress, with a long veil sur-mounted by a diamond crown. Her Majesty also were a diamond necklace and brooch the Riband and Star of the Order of the Garter, the orders of Victoria and Albert and Louise of Prussia, and the Coburg and Gotha Family Order.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales wore a train of white satin, trimmed with white crepe and tulle, a petticoat of rich white slik, with ruches of crepe and tulle, and a tunic of creps looped with white flowers. Headdress-a tiara of diamonds with feathers and veil. Ornaments—pearls and diamonds. Orders—Victoria and Albert, Catherine of Russia and the Danish Order.

Her Royal Highness Princess Louise wore a train of mauve moire trimmed with satin, a petticoat of rich glace, and a lace tunic trimmed with bows of satin and marguerites. Headdresses-feathers, veil and wreath of marguerites and diamonds. Diamond ornaments, and Orders of Victoria and Albert, St. Isabel and the Coburg and Gotha Family

Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice wore white tulle dress trimmed with Isle of Wight lace and pink and white May blossom, over a pink silk skirt. Ornaments-an emerald and diamond cross attached to a row of pearls, and a diamond brooch containing a miniature of the Queen.

UTAH'S UTOPIAN MONSTER.

The Sen Serpent in Benr Luke-A Monster with Fins like Our-bludes.

From the Salt Lake Descret News, May 24.

Mr. Charles C. Rich, Jr., of Paris, Rich county, called upon us yesterday morning, having recently arrived from Bear Lake

He informs us that the Bear Lake monster has been once more seen by a young man named Marion Thomas and three sons of Phineas H. Cook. They were on the lake in a boat, fishing, opposite Swan creek, and Brother Thomas saw something on the water which, at the distance, he thought was a duck. and, remarking to the boys that he guessed there was the monster, commenced rowing toward it.

They stood up in the boat, and told him that it was the monster, and besought him to stop his rowing, as they were somewhat alarmed, but he kept on, when they shouted to him to turn his head, and doing so, sure enough about four rods from the boat there lay the monster. The boys were so frightened that they threatened to jump from the boat if he did not stop rowing. They had seen the monster before, and were very much alarmed, but Brother Thomas had never seen it, and was one of the strongest unbelievers in its existence, and it was this skepticism which had impelled him to row, in opposition to their wishes, towards the supposed duck.

He describes its head as serpent-shaped. He saw about twenty feet of its body, which was covered with hair or fur, something like an otter, and light brown. It had two flippers, extending from the upper part of the body, which he compared to the blades of his oars. He was so near it that if he had had a rifle he could have shot it.

We think that this ought to squelch all doubts that may have existed heretofore in the minds of any of our people in respect to the existence of the monsters in Bear Lake. It has had that effect on many of the people

there. Heretofore the testimony of many men of unimpeachable character has been given that they had been eye-witnesses to the existence of these creatures, but none of them, that we are aware of, ever got near enough to describe them with any degree of accuracy; and owing to slight real or seeming incongruities in their descriptious, the Bear Lake monster has been regarded by many more as a myth than in any other light. Brother Thomas was one of this class: but he is now thoroughly convinced that his doubts were groundless; and having had an opportunity of inspecting it so closely as to be able to describe it with some degree of accuracy, we think his testimony, combined with those which have preceded him, should do away with the doubts of the most skeptical.

We should think, after this, that some of the enterprising and adventurous citizens of Rich county would devise plans and means of capturing one of these denizens of their beautiful lake. It would certainly be a great haul, and would be worth considerable trouble.

TENNYSON AS AN ASTRONOMER.

The news that the Poet Laureate has volunteered to take part in the eclipse observations doubtless induce many to join the expedition who would otherwise have been willing to leave the matter in the hands of the astronomers. To what department of observation Mr. Tennyson will devote himself, whether the spectroscope or the polariscope will be his chosen instrument, or whether he will hide his bays in the dark chamber of the photographer, remains as yet unknown. It may be that he will be invited by those who are to superintend the arrangements to enjoy the wondrous spectacle of a total eclipse with mind undistracted by thoughts of prisms and analyzers, rack movements, focussing, or collodion films. A total eclipse described by a Tennyson would surely be a marvel of word-painting. Who but a poet could rightly present a scene which has almost made poets of our Hinds and our Airys? The solemn grandeur of the spectacle as the gathering shadows obscure the face of nature, the weird and unearthly aspect of familiar objects, the surpassing beauty of the crown of glory which springs forth around the sun as the moon hides from view the last fine thread of his light-how shall any but the poet of nature adequately clothe these won-ders in words? And what compensation would it be to us if, in place of that noble picture which we shall look for from our Poet Laureate, a picture which would be a thing of beauty and a joy for ever, we should learn that Mr. Tennyson had "micrometrically determined the are between the solar cups," or had proved that "the corona's light is polarized in a plane through the sun's centre?" Let others settle these things, but to our poet let a work be given worthier of his

powers. The writings of the Poet Laureate indicate that, like Chaucer, Milton, and others of our great poets, he takes a deep and thoughtful interest in the science of his day. If Chaucer could speak of Saturn, "whose course is so wide for to tourne," and Milton of the planets and

Their wand'ring course, now high, now low, then

Progressive, retrogade, or standing still,

Tennyson has known how to treat gracefully and effectively of those wonders which science has lately brought to our knowledge. Professor Tyndall justly tells us that the philosopher of our day "dwells among conceptions which beggar those of Milton;" and the poet who would rightly interpret his age (the true work of the poet, as we take it) does well to throw the glamor of his art around those splendid conceptions. We need not wonder, perhaps, if to the poet there should seem more of attractiveness in the merely speculative than in the rigidly demonstrative parts of science, nor complain if, by clothing a doubtful theory in beautiful words, he should give it a value apart from its scientific standing. We are not bound to believe

unquestioningly that This world was once a fluid haze of light, Till toward the centre set the starry tidea And eddied into suns, that wheeling cast

because the poet has set the theory as a jewel that will "on the stretched forefinger of all time sparkle for ever." But even the most cautious man of science cannot but rejoice that our poets give a new charm to science by associating with its dry details the meledy of

their songs—that they dip in all
That treats of whatsoever is, the mind,
The morals, something of the frame, the rock,
The star, the bird the fish, the shell, the flewer,
Electric, chemic laws, and all the rest,
And whatsoever can be taught and known.

-In 1869, in Paris, 2758 horses were caten, giving more than a million pounds of this kind of "beef"—a large increase on any former year of hippophagy.

INFALLIBLE CONTRADICTIONS.

A Few Items of Papal History. The last number of the North German Correspondent contains the following remarks on the question of Infallibility:-

"In the twelfth century a work was produced by the celebrated philosopher and theologian Abelard, on the contradictions and discrepancies that may be found in the writings of the Fathers of the Church. Supposing this eminent scholar were alive, what would be say about the impending resolution of the latest Œcumenical Council, by which the personal infallibility of the Pope is to be solemnly proclaimed? We need not search long for an answer to this question. With the honest and uncompromising boldness for which he was distinguished, Abelard would most probably have declared, 'If the Papacy be now declared infallible, all the predecessors of Pius must have been so too. But in the face of history who can maintain such a proposition unless he has made the credo quia absurdum the great maxim of his And then we can easily imagine the learned monk, with a causticity which we cannot imitate, adduce in support of his position some such historical details as those we here subjoin.

"Pope Julius I embraced the views of Athanasius regarding the Father and the Son, but these same opinions were condemned by his successor Liberius. Innocent I anathematized Pelagius and all his followers as heretics: while Zesimus, who succeeded, recognized him as orthodox, but subsequently altered his views at the command of the Emperor Theodosius. The infallible Vicar of Christ, Hormisdas, declared it to be an abominable belief that one of the three persons of the Trinity had been crucified; while John II and Agapetus, his successors, both pronounced this decision to be impious and absurd.

"Leo the Great considered the use of bread and wine in the holy Eucharist as 'a divine command and an apostolical institution'confirming in this respect the judgment of Julius I-and wished to excommunicate every one who 'demanded the body of Christ without drinking his blood.' Pope Gelasius in 495 likewise declared all those to be heretics who refrained from the cup in the Holy Communion. Now, if these three popes were infallible, how did it happen that in the twelfth century the chalice was withdrawn from the laity, who had to be satisfied with the bread alone; and an anathema was hurled against those who desired to retain the practice of communicating under both forms?

"Pope Virgilius, in accordance with the Council of Chalcedon, accepted as orthodox the writings of three Fathers of the Church. The Emperor Justinian, however, maintained that these books contained heretical doctrines; and the infallible Virgilius hereupon adopted the imperial decision. After some time the Pope returned to his former views, and the Fathers who had been proclaimed heterodox were rehabilitated and restored to their places among the orthodox writers. Justinian, enraged at this conduct, threatened the Pope with deposition, and the infallibility of Rome again yielded to the menaces of Byzantium, the result being that the books in question were after all definitely condemned as heretical productions.

"John XXII established the doctrine that the Holy Virgin, the Apostles and the saints were not to be partakers of the joys of Paradise, nor to be admitted into the presence of God before the day of judgment. As this new dogma, however, was likely to deprive the clergy of a rich source of profit in the supposed intercession of Mary and the saints, John revoked the bull in which it had been announced, and tacitly admitted his error.

"Pope Urban VII (1642) strictly forbade the use of snuff in churches, and Innocent XII threatened obstinate misdemeanants with his anathema; but Benedict XII, who himself always carried a snuff-box in his pocket, revoked the interdiction, and permitted the faithful to refresh themselves with a pinch during the hours of divine service.

"Many more curious and interesting historical questions connected with Papal infallibility might be raised such as-Is it admitted that Leo X was infallible when, declining to have Luther burned as a heretic, he observed: 'I think Brother Martin has a capital head; all this comes from the envy of the monks; or when, on another occasion, he jocularly remarked to Cardinal Bembo, 'Really, it must be acknowledged that this fable of the gospel has done us good service.' Was Clement VII infallible who declared himself in favor of the irresistibility of divine grace, as inculcated by St. Augustine or Urban VII, who entered the lists against this doctrine? In-nocent X, who wished to see the same dogma accepted anew by the Church, or Clement XI, by whom it was again unconditionally rejected ?"

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